

ULSTER COUNTY PLANNING BOARD

Minutes –May 6, 2009

The Ulster County Planning Board Meeting
7:30 p.m. – Surrogate Courtroom, 3rd Floor
County Office Building

The Executive Committee Met

Chairperson Hokanson called the meeting to order at 7:30pm.

- 1. ROLL CALL Present:** R. Pecora, M. Beuf, P. Hakim, D. Martorana, T. Natale, T. Hokanson, T. Wilkin, S. Hudson, J. Walsh, R. Praetorius, K. Holmquist, M. Watkins, R. Budziak, G. Matichuk, A. Yuran, R. Pritchard, D. Doyle, J. Schwartz, B. Tobin, R. Leibowitz, B. Samuelson
Absent: J. Konior, L. Biggin, R. Oakes, S. Finkle, T. Briggs **Excused:** R. Elwell

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES

The April minutes were approved. Motion made by Ms. Pecora, seconded by Mr. Martorana.

3. FINANCIAL REPORT

Mr. Doyle stated that money is still available in our budget. He added that we have received notification from Catskill Watershed Corporation of a grant for \$50,000 for Main Streets with no local match required.

- 4. PUBLIC COMMENT** - There was no public comment

5. COMMUNITY REPORT

Ms. Beuf stated she has retired from the Gardiner Planning Board. Mr. Holmquist thanked Mr. Doyle for coming to a Town of Shandaken Board meeting regarding their farmstand law. Ms. Pecora stated Town of Esopus had a second meeting on the Esopus Lakes project. She added that Dave Sheeley from UCDPW is willing to grant work permits for work to be done on County ROW and that the applicant and owner of the property will be putting together an engineering plan. Ms. Pecora stated if this doesn't work they may need a new water plant or they may have to take water from the City of Kingston. Mr. Doyle asked Ms. Pecora to talk about the new Esopus Town Hall. Ms. Pecora stated they are going out to bid on a new solar project that will cover all electrical bills for the Town Hall, which will be the first town hall in Ulster County to do so.

- 6. COMMUNICATIONS** – Ms. Hokanson informed the Board that from now on the communications will be handed out separately and not gone over in detail. If anyone has a question they can contact Mr. Doyle. Mr. Doyle stated he wanted to go over one item, "Ulster County has determined that the Greater Catskills Floodplain Remediation Program to be an Unlisted Action under SEQRA and has completed an Uncoordinated review of the project." He stated that the County received money from NYS to acquire properties that were flooded. Appraisals have been done and we have reached out to eligible property owners to see if current homeowners are still interested. If the County does purchase these properties the homes will be torn down and the property will not be allowed to be developed.

7. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Mr. Doyle mentioned the upcoming seminar "Making Trees Part of the Plan" on May 27th to be held at SUNY Ulster. He encouraged the board to attend.
- b. Mr. Tobin informed the Board that traffic counts are currently in progress. He also said a transit study will begin soon, a study of I-587 for different alternatives will be done, the Economic Stimulus program is being monitored and the Inter-modal center site location study is ongoing. Mr. Leibowitz added that the TIP is located on our website. Mr. Doyle added that an enormous amount of effort goes into the Transportation portion of the office. Mr. Doyle stated that County Executive,

Michael P. Hein, is also the Chairman of the Transportation Council and added that Mr. Hein has taken a great interest in what is going on.

c. Main Street Presentation

Ms. Schwartz stated this program started with the idea of creating technical assistance to provide to communities. She added that we have found that it is difficult to have just one approach as our communities are in various stages of Main Street development. Ms. Schwartz stated her presentation has recently been given in Woodstock.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Ms. Hokanson stated that the Executive Committee has decided to form a new committee for the referral review process. She stated that guidelines need to be looked at to make recommendations more uniform. **Tom Wilkin, Rich Praetorius, Mark Watkins and Melinda Beuf volunteered.**
- b. Mr. Doyle asked the Board to consider setting up a retreat for the Board during the week to discuss issues relating to Transportation, Land Use, Housing, Open Space, etc as it relates to the Board's functions. Mr. Doyle would like this retreat to count as our Board Member's 4 hour yearly requirement. He added mid-to-late June would work time wise. The Board suggested June 30th **(the day before our July meeting??)**
- c. Mr. Doyle informed the Board that UCPB has a defined role under the County Charter to comment on the County's Capital Program. As such, we have been asked to serve on the Capital Program Committee.
- d. Environmental Notice Bulletin – *No Member Comment*
- e. Zoning Referrals – *See Separate Zoning Minutes*

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm. Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Martorana, seconded by Ms. Pecora.